

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04254 301058Z
ACTION EUR-12

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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R 301017Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5684
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 4254

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, UR, PINT, PFOR, US
SUBJECT: TASS CARRIES ATTACK ON CULTURAL PROGRAM

REF: MOSCOW 4187

1. TASS CARRIES MARCH 28 SUMMARY OF "ZARYA VOSTOKA" ARTICLE OF HOW WESTERN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES USE GROWING TOURIST AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE FOR "DIRTY ANTI-SOVIET PURPOSES". AFTER NAMING TWO AMERICAN TOURISTS TO TBILISI ALLEGED TO HAVE DISTRIBUTED BOTH ANTI-SOVIET AND PRO-ZIONIST MATERIALS AND STATING THAT IN 1973 "STAFF MEMBERS OF THE U.S. EMBASSY" VISITED GEORGIA TWICE TO CHECK AUDIBILITY OF "VOICE OF ISRAEL" AND "SUBVERSIVE RADIO STATION LIBERTY", THE ARTICLE CONTINUES:

QUOTE: AN AMERICAN JAZZ BAND CAME TO TOUR GEORGIA IN 1976, UNDER THE CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM. THE AUDIBILITY OF THE SUBVERSIVE RADIO STATIONS ON GEORGIAN TERRITORY WAS CHECKED BY ROBERT PECK, A MEMBER OF THE BAND. THE "ZARYA VOSTOKA" NEWSPAPER INDICATED THAT THE ROLE OF CHECKERS IN THIS VERY CURIOUS CULTURAL EXCHANGE WAS PLAYED BY OFFICIALS OF AMERICAN EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER "CULTURAL WORKERS" WHO CAME TO TBILISI
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FROM THE USA. END QUOTE.

2. EMBASSY NOTES THAT NO USG SPONSORED PAG VISITED TBILISI IN 1976, AND THAT "ROBERT PECK" IS ALSO NAME OF FSO ASSIGNED AMEMBASSY MOSCOW APPROXIMATELY 1969-71.

3. EMBASSY DISTURBED BY ATTACK ON EVE OF VISIT BY ADVANCE

TEAM FOR PAG NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND, SCHEDULED TO
PERFORM IN TBILISI IN MAY. DEPT MAY WISH TO COMMENT ON
INACCURACY OF ARTICLE IN REAFFIRMING US SUPPORT FOR CULTURAL
EXCHANGE.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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